AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph on page 13, starting at line 10, as follows:

The previous examples illustrate the synchronization achieved by the implementation of the multi-phase operation in accordance with the present invention. In some cases the slave components 530B, 530N complete their respective tasks in two phases, while the master component 530A needs three phases to complete its task. Therefore, the slave components 530B, 530N are idle during an entire phase in which the corresponding master component 530A completes its respective task. The task coordinator 520 places the slave components 530B, 530N in a wait state during the phase in which the master component 530A completes its task (i.e. until the master component 530A sends back an "EndMethod" message to the task coordinator 520). Therefore, the operations of the master ~~coordinator~~ component 530A and the slave ~~coordinators~~ components 530B, 530N are synchronized with the "EndMethod" code.